

REMARKS

As indicated in our Preliminary Amendment Accompanying our Request for Continued Examination, which we filed on December 8, 2003, we attach hereto the executed Declaration Under Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.132 including Exhibits A-D, indicating the non-obviousness of dehydroxylation over the prior art.

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile number (703) 872-9306, on January 29, 2004

Signature

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